

## A NEW COMBINATION IN *BRYUM* (MUSCI: BRYACEAE)

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### ABSTRACT

A new combination in *Bryum* is provided for the Andean *Anomobryum worthleyi*.

**KEY WORDS:** *Anomobryum*, *Bryum*, new combination.

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Recent papers by John R. Spence (Spence and Ramsay 2002; Spence 2005a, b) mention problems concerning the typification of the genus *Bryum* Hedw., and the resulting effects on the status of the genus *Anomobryum* Schimp. The papers accept the fact that *Anomobryum* is congeneric with the common *Bryum argenteum* Hedw. Unfortunately for the the generic status of *Anomobryum*, *Bryum argenteum* had been chosen by E.G. Britton as lectotype of the genus *Bryum* (Britton 1918). Such lectotypifications made by staff of the New York Botanical Garden during the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century were often arbitrary and sometimes so buried in the literature as to be easily overlooked. As such they were often later rejected even without resort to any committee. However, the selections were not always unreasonable, and such lectotypifications were not always rejected. The Britton lectotypification had been widely accepted, and was cited in Index Muscorum (Van der Wijk, Margadant and Florschütz 1959). It is only recently that the full possible consequences of the Britton lectotypification have become apparent, for *Anomobryum* and for other elements traditionally placed in *Bryum*. Spence and Ramsay (1999) proposed conservation of the name *Bryum* with another type, but as indicated by Spence (2005), this has been rejected.

The consequences of the typification of *Bryum* by *B. argenteum* are most noticeable in many other parts of what has been called *Bryum*.

with the resurrection of such genera as *Ptychostomum* Hornsch., the description of new genera such as *Gemmabryum* J.R. Spence and H.P. Ramsay, *Ochiobryum* J.R. Spence and H.P. Ramsay, *Plagiobryoides* J.R. Spence, and the elevation of *Leptostomopsis* (Mull.Hal.) J.R. Spence & H.P. Ramsay (see Spence 2005a, b). These are added to the earlier new genus *Rosulobryum* J.R. Spence (1996).

The consequences of the synonymy of *Anomobryum* with *Bryum* are not as great, since the number of species of *Anomobryum* is limited, and many of those species have preexisting combinations in a broader concept of *Bryum* (Allen 2002; Ochi 1980). One South American species where a combination is required is treated below.

**Bryum worthleyi** (H. Rob.) H. Rob., **comb. nov.** basionym: *Anomobryum worthleyi* H. Rob., Bryologist 70: 320 (1967). Bolivia, Peru.

This is the same species treated by Ochi (1980) as *Bryum albo-imbricatum* Ochi, nom. nov. for *Bryum albidum* Broth. in Herz., Biblioth. Bot. 87: 81 (1916), *hom. Illeg.*, non P. Beauv. 1805; nec Copp. 1911. When Ochi (1980) provided the nom. nov. he was evidently unaware of the already existing name *Anomobryum worthleyi* (Robinson 1967) which had priority.

The name of the species honors the late Elmer Worthley, who collected the type near Machu Picchu, Peru in 1962.

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